

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Gary CRANCE Art Unit : 2132
Serial No. : 09/688,142 Examiner : Jung W. Kim
Filed : October 16, 2000 Conf. No. : 9995
Title : ONLINE IMAGE PROTECTION

Mail Stop Appeal Brief - Patents
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

BRIEF ON APPEAL

(1) Real Party in Interest

AOL LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, the assignee of this application, is the real party in interest.

(2) Related Appeals and Interferences

There are no related appeals or interferences.

(3) Status of Claims

Claims 1-9, 11-31, 33-50, and 52-88 are pending in this application, with claims 1, 23, 42, 52, and 64 being independent. All of the claims have been rejected and all of the claims are being appealed.

(4) Status of Amendments

The claims have not been amended subsequent to the final rejection of July 26, 2006.

(5) Summary of Claimed Subject Matter

In the discussion below, reference numerals and references to particular portions of the specification are inserted for illustrative purposes only and are not meant to limit the scope of the claims.

Independent claim 1 is directed to a computer-implemented method (1000, Fig. 10) of protecting content. The method includes presenting an indicator that differs from the content and indicates a presence of the content (1005, Fig. 10), preventing a user from perceiving the content

while the indicator is being presented (1005, Fig. 10), receiving a request from the user to access the content (1010, Fig. 10), enabling the user to perceive the content based on the request received from the user (1020, Fig. 10), and preventing the user from capturing the content and preventing a perception of the content at the indicator whenever the user attempts to capture the content (1025, Fig. 10). (Page 25, line 23 to page 26, line 8; and page 26, line 9 to page 29, line 26)

Independent claim 23 is directed to a system for protecting content (100, Fig. 1). The system includes a processor (121, Fig. 1) having communications links (125, Fig. 1) for receiving content from a network, an output device (107, Fig. 1) for making received network content perceivable, an input device for receiving user input (103, 105, Fig. 1), and memory (109, Fig. 1) storing software instructions performed by the processor for performing the method of claim 1. (Page 4, line 6 to page 5, line 1; page 25, line 23 to page 26, line 8; and page 26, line 9 to page 29, line 26)

Independent claim 42 is directed to computer software (109, Fig. 1), tangibly embodied in a computer-readable medium or in a propagated carrier signal, for protecting content, for causing a computer system (100, Fig. 1) to perform the method of claim 1. (Page 4, line 6 to page 5, line 1; page 25, line 23 to page 26, line 8; and page 26, line 9 to page 29, line 26)

Independent claim 52 is directed to a computer-implemented method (1000, Fig. 10) of protecting content. The method includes presenting a visible indicator that differs from the content, and indicates a presence of the content (1005, Fig. 10), preventing a user from perceiving the content while the visible indicator is being presented (1005, Fig. 10), enabling a user to perceive the content while the visible indicator is selected (1020, Fig. 10), receiving a request from the user to capture the content (1025, Fig. 10), and preventing the user from capturing the content and preventing a perception of the content whenever the user attempts to capture the content (1025, Fig. 10). (Page 25, line 23 to page 26, line 8; and page 26, line 9 to page 29, line 26)

Independent claim 64 is directed to a system for protecting content (100, Fig. 1). The system includes a processor (121, Fig. 1) having communications links (125, Fig. 1) for receiving content from a network, an output device (107, Fig. 1) for making received network content perceivable, an input device for receiving user input (103, 105, Fig. 1), and memory

(109, Fig. 1). The memory stores software instructions performed by the processor for presenting a visible indicator that differs from the content and indicates a presence of the content (1005, Fig. 10), for preventing a user from perceiving the content while the visible indicator is being presented (1005, Fig. 10), for enabling a user to perceive the content while the visible indicator is selected (1020, Fig. 10), for receiving a request from the user to access the content (1010, Fig. 10), and for preventing the user from capturing the content and preventing a perception of the content whenever the user attempts to capture the content (1025, Fig. 10).
(Page 4, line 6 to page 5, line 1; page 25, line 23 to page 26, line 8; and page 26, line 9 to page 29, line 26)

(6) Grounds of Rejection to be Reviewed on Appeal

Claims 76, 78, 80, 82, and 84 (which depend from claims 1, 23, 42, 52, and 64) have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph for allegedly failing to comply with the enablement requirement.

Independent claims 1, 23, 42, 52, and 64, and their dependent claims 2-9, 11-19, 21, 24-31, 33-37, 39, 41, 43-50, 53-60, 62, 65-72, 74, 75, 77, 79, 81, 83, and 85-88, have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by Lemay et al. "Teach Yourself Java 2 in 21 Days" ("Lemay").

Independent claims 1, 23, 42, 52, and 64, and their dependent claims 2, 3, 8, 9, 11-17, 21, 24, 25, 30, 31, 33-35, 39, 41, 43, 44, 49, 50, 53-60, 62, 65-72, 74, and 76-88, have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 6,032,150 (Nguyen) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,587,843 (Gelfer).

Claims 4-7, 18-20, 26-29, 36-38, 45-48, 61, and 73 (which depend from claims 1, 23, 42, 52, and 64) have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Nguyen in view of Gelfer and Lemay.

Claims 22, 40, 63, and 75 (which depend from claims 1, 23, 52, and 64) have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Nguyen in view of Gelfer and "Video on the World Wide Web Accessing Video from WWW Browsers" by Huseby (Huseby).

(7) Argument

Appellant requests reversal of the outstanding rejections for the reasons presented below.

1. Claims 76, 78, 80, 82, and 84 (which depend from claims 1, 23, 42, 52, and 64)

comply with the enablement requirement because the specification describes the invention recited in these claims in such terms that one skilled in the art can make and use the claimed invention.

The specification contained sufficient information regarding the subject matter of claims 76, 78, 80, 82, and 84 as to enable one skilled in the pertinent art to make and use the claimed invention. Each of these dependent claims recites that enabling the user to perceive the content includes replacing the indicator with the content, such that the indicator and the content are presented as alternatives. Each of these claims depends from one of the independent claims, which generally require that the perception of the content be prevented whenever the user attempts to capture the content.

As described in the specification, the user can perceive the content (for example, the image 1110) by clicking and holding the mouse button with the cursor 1106 on the indicator (for example, the display area 1108). The user perceives the image 1110 because the image 1110 covers the display area 1108 such that that portion of the display area 1108 is replaced with the image 1110. Moreover, if the user attempts to capture the image 1110 by, for example, right clicking the mouse's right button, the image 1110 (which is placed at the display area 1108) disappears and the perception of the image 1110 is prevented, as shown in Fig. 13. Thus, appellant has described the features of these dependent claims in such terms that one skilled in the art would be able to make and use the claimed invention.

Accordingly, the rejection of claims 76, 78, 80, 82, and 84 as failing to comply with the enablement requirement under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph should be reversed.

Notably, in the Advisory Action of February 20, 2007, the Examiner states that "the specification defines the indicator as a graphical element" and "if the presence of the indicator is not required at the moment the content is present, how is the content located 'at the indicator'?" Appellant points out that the language "at the indicator", which is present only in claims not rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112 (that is, claims 1, 23, and 42), does not require nor recite the presence of the indicator at the moment that the content is present nor does the language require

that the content be located at the indicator at the moment that the indicator is displayed. Indeed, as the example described above points out, the specification explains that perception of the image 1110 at the display area 1108 is prevented whenever the user attempts to capture the image 1110.

2. Lemay does not describe or suggest preventing a user from perceiving content while an indicator is being presented, as recited in claim 1, and as similarly recited in each of independent claims 23, 42, 52, and 64.

Independent claims 1, 23, 42, 52, and 64 recite, among other features, that a user is prevented from perceiving content while an indicator is being presented.

In Lemay, a user is presented with a question, for example, "How many times per week do you access your Personal Bookshelf" and a face of a pull-down list, for example, the face "Choose One," as shown in Figure 11.7 of Lemay. Thus, the question and/or the pull-down list face indicate that a pull-down list is present. When the user selects the face of the pull-down list, the options of the pull-down list are presented to the user, for example, items "Less than 1", "1-2", and "3-4" are presented in the list below the pull-down list face and the question. See Lemay at Figure 11.7. However, in Lemay, the user is never prevented from perceiving the pull-down list while the pull-down list face and the question are presented. To the contrary, in Lemay, the user is enabled to perceive the pull-down list while both the pull-down list face and the question are presented. See Lemay at Figure 11.7.

The Examiner states in the Advisory action that in Lemay, the "content of the pull-down list is not perceived until a user has selected the indicator." Whether this statement is true or not is neither deterministic nor debated at present, as the independent claims require more than preventing the content from being perceived. The independent claims require that the user be prevented from perceiving the content while the indicator is being presented. Thus, although Lemay requires a user to select the pull-down list face to view the pull-down list, Lemay does not require the selected pull-down list face to be hidden in order to make perceivable the corresponding pull-down list. As such, Lemay does not disclose preventing the user from perceiving the content (that is, the pull-down list) while the indicator (that is, the pull-down list face) is presented.

Accordingly, the rejection of claims 1, 23, 42, 52, and 64, as well as the dependent claims, as being anticipated by Lemay should be reversed.

3. Neither Nguyen, Gelfer, nor any proper combination of the two describes or suggests preventing a user from perceiving content while an indicator (that indicates the presence of the content) is being presented and preventing a perception of the content at the indicator whenever the user attempts to capture the content, as recited in claim 1, and as similarly recited in each of independent claims 23, 42, 52, and 64.

In Nguyen, a program applet 124 is invoked when a user selects a second region 122 of a web document 121 in an attempt to select a first region 122 of the web document 121 that includes a graphical element 123. See Nguyen at col. 3, lines 12-24 and Fig. 1. However, neither the program applet 124 nor the second region 122 is an indicator that is presented and that indicates a presence of the graphical element 123. Thus, Nguyen cannot describe or suggest preventing a user from perceiving content while an "indicator" is being presented.

The Examiner states that "Nguyen discloses the limitation wherein the user is prevented from perceiving the detailed graphical element by the applet, which is the second region." Appellant initially notes, for clarity, that the claims do not require that the user is prevented from perceiving content by the indicator. Rather, the claims recite "preventing a user from perceiving the content while the indicator is being presented." Additionally, while the second region 122 may include the applet, there is nothing in Nguyen that suggests that the second region 122 indicates a presence of the graphical element 123. Rather, the applet is merely a program that executes at the web client when the user selects the second region 122.

Gelfer does not remedy the failure of Nguyen to describe or suggest preventing a user from perceiving content while the indicator is being presented. Gelfer relates to providing a security flag that is needed for a postage meter machine operation. See Gelfer at abstract. However, Gelfer never describes or suggests that a user is prevented from perceiving content while an indicator is being presented.

Additionally, as the Examiner concedes, Nguyen also fails to describe or suggest preventing a perception of the content at the indicator whenever the user attempts to capture the content. Apparently realizing this deficiency in Nguyen, the Examiner states that Gelfer

describes this feature because Gelfer "discloses a security feature of a device wherein the device was effectively shut down when an unauthorized action occurs." While Gelfer describes that the postage meter machine is switched into a first mode to shut down if the security flag is erased (which occurs during an unauthorized action), Gelfer never describes or suggests that perception of content at an indicator is prevented when a user attempts to capture the content.

Accordingly, the rejection of claims 1, 23, 42, 52, and 64, as well as the dependent claims, as being obvious over Nguyen in view of Gelfer should be reversed.

4. With respect to claims 4-7, 18-20, 26-29, 36-38, 45-48, 61, and 73 (which depend from claims 1, 23, 42, 52, and 64), neither Nguyen, Gelfer, Lemay, nor any proper combination of the three describes or suggests preventing a user from perceiving content while an indicator is being presented, as recited in claim 1, and as similarly recited in each of independent claims 23, 42, 52, and 64.

As discussed above, neither Nguyen, Gelfer, Lemay, nor any proper combination of the three describes or suggest preventing a user from perceiving content while an indicator is being presented, as recited in claim 1, and as similarly recited in each of independent claims 23, 42, 52, and 64. Thus, claims 1, 23, 42, 52, and 64 are allowable over any proper combination of Nguyen, Gelfer, and Lemay. Accordingly, the rejection of claims 4-7, 18-20, 26-29, 36-38, 45-48, 61, and 73 as being obvious over Nguyen in view of Gelfer and Lemay should be reversed.

5. With respect to claims 22, 40, 63, and 75 (which depend from claims 1, 23, 52, and 64), neither Nguyen, Gelfer, Huseby, nor any proper combination of the three describes or suggests preventing a user from perceiving content while the indicator is being presented, as recited in claim 1, and as similarly recited in each of independent claims 23, 52, and 64.

Huseby does not remedy the failure of Nguyen to describe or suggest preventing a user from perceiving content while an indicator is being presented, as recited in claim 1, and as similarly recited in each of independent claims 23, 42, 52, and 64. Huseby merely relates to the use of video in a browser program for the World Wide Web, including video transfer, format, and display. See Huseby at abstract. However, Huseby never describes or suggests preventing a

user from perceiving a video (one example of a content) while an indicator that indicates the presence of the video is being presented.

Thus, claims 1, 23, 52, and 64 are allowable over any proper combination of Nguyen, Gelfer, and Lemay. Accordingly, the rejection of claims 22, 40, 63, and 75 as being obvious over Nguyen in view of Gelfer and Huseby should be reversed.

Appellant submits that all claims are in condition for allowance.

The Appeal Brief Fee of \$500 is being paid concurrently herewith on the Electronic Filing System (EFS) by way of Deposit Account authorization. Please apply any other charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050, referencing attorney docket no. 06975-070001.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:March 26, 2007

/Diana DiBerardino/

Diana DiBerardino
Reg. No. 45,653

Fish & Richardson P.C.
1425 K Street, N.W.
11th Floor
Washington, DC 20005-3500
Telephone: (202) 783-5070
Facsimile: (202) 783-2331

40407537

(8) Appendix of Claims

1. (Previously presented) A computer-implemented method of protecting content, the method comprising:

presenting an indicator that differs from the content and indicates a presence of the content;

preventing a user from perceiving the content while the indicator is being presented;

receiving a request from the user to access the content;

enabling the user to perceive the content based on the request received from the user; and

preventing the user from capturing the content and preventing a perception of the content at the indicator whenever the user attempts to capture the content.

2. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein preventing the user from capturing the content includes preventing the user from capturing the content while perception of the content is enabled.

3. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the content is an image and the indicator includes a display area that has a size that is greater than a size of the image and is positioned at a location of the image.

4. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the indicator comprises text that presents the user with instructions for operating an input device to perceive the content when a graphical interface tool is positioned over the indicator.

5. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein enabling the user to perceive the content includes presenting the content to the user when the user requests access to the content by at least positioning a graphical interface tool over the indicator.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein preventing the user from capturing the content comprises preventing the user from using devices capable of capturing the content while the content is being presented to the user.

7. (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein preventing the user from capturing the content comprises preventing the user from using a single device to both present and capture the content.

8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein enabling the user to perceive the content includes presenting the content in a browser window.

9. (Previously presented) The method of claim 8 wherein preventing the user from capturing the content comprises preventing the user from accessing an application of a browser used to produce the browser window that is otherwise capable of at least one of copying and saving the content.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the content comprises an image and enabling the user to perceive the content includes displaying the image.

12. (Previously presented) The method of claim 11 wherein presenting the indicator includes presenting an icon that differs from the content and that indicates a presence of the content.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein the content includes an image and presenting the icon comprises displaying the icon in an area that has a size and a location that are substantially the same as a size and a location of the image.

14. (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein presenting the icon includes directing the user to operate an input device in a prescribed manner in order to request access to the content when a graphical interface tool is positioned over the icon.

15. (Previously presented) The method of claim 12 wherein receiving a request from the user to access the content includes receiving input from the user corresponding to positioning of a graphical interface tool over the icon.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15 wherein preventing the user from capturing the content comprises preventing the user from using a single device to both present and capture the content.

17. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the content includes an image and preventing the user from capturing the content comprises preventing the user from copying and saving the image.

18. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the content is described in a hyper-text markup language.

19. (Original) The method of claim 18 wherein receiving a request from the user to access the content comprises receiving instructions from a user to access a document, the instructions including a network address of the document.

20. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the content includes sound, enabling the user to perceive the content includes playing the sound, and preventing the user from capturing the content includes preventing capture of information representing the sound.

21. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the content includes text, enabling the user to perceive the content includes displaying the text, and preventing the user from capturing the content includes preventing capture of information representing the text.

22. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the content includes video, enabling the user to perceive the content includes playing the video, and preventing the user from capturing the content includes preventing capture of information representing the video.

23. (Previously presented) A system for protecting content, the system comprising:
a processor having communications links for receiving content from a network;
an output device for making received network content perceivable;
an input device for receiving user input; and
memory storing software instructions performed by the processor (i) for presenting an indicator that differs from the content and indicates a presence of the content, (ii) for preventing a user from perceiving the content while the indicator is being presented, (iii) for receiving a request from the user to access the content, (iv) for enabling the user to perceive the content based on the request received from the user, and (v) for preventing the user from capturing the content and preventing a perception of the content at the indicator whenever the user attempts to capture the content.

24. (Previously presented) The system of claim 23 wherein the software instructions for preventing the user from capturing the content includes software instructions for preventing the user from capturing the content while perception of the content is enabled.

25. (Previously presented) The system of claim 23 wherein the content is an image and the memory includes software instructions performable by the processor for generating the

indicator to include a display area having a size that is greater than a size of the image and a location at a position of the image.

26. (Previously presented) The system of claim 23 wherein the memory includes software instructions performable by the processor for generating the indicator to include text that is presented to the user with instructions for operating an input device to perceive the content when a graphical interface tool is positioned over the indicator.

27. (Previously presented) The system of claim 23 wherein the software instruction for enabling the user to perceive the content include software instructions for presenting the content to the user when the user requests access to the content by at least positioning a graphical interface tool over the indicator.

28. (Original) The system of claim 27 wherein the software instructions for preventing the user from capturing the content include software instructions for preventing the user from using devices capable of capturing the content while the content is being presented to the user.

29. (Original) The system of claim 27 wherein the software instructions for preventing the user from capturing the content include software instructions for preventing the user from using a single input device to both present and capture the content.

30. (Previously presented) The system of claim 23 wherein the software instructions for enabling the user to perceive the content include software instructions for presenting the content in a browser window.

31. (Previously presented) The system of claim 30 wherein the software instructions for preventing the user from capturing the content comprises software instructions for preventing the user from accessing an application of a browser used to produce the browser window that otherwise is capable of at least one of copying and saving the content.

32. (Canceled)

33. (Original) The system of claim 23 wherein the content includes an image and the software instructions for preventing the user from capturing the content comprise software instructions for preventing the user from copying and saving the image.

34. (Original) The system of claim 23 wherein the software instructions enable perception of the content from a webpage.

35. (Original) The system of claim 23 wherein the content comprises an image and the software instructions for enabling the user to perceive the content include software instructions for displaying the image.

36. (Previously presented) The system of claim 23 wherein the content is described in a hyper-text markup language.

37. (Original) The system of claim 23 wherein the software instructions for receiving a request from the user to access the content comprise software instructions for receiving input from a user indicating a request for access to a document, with the instructions including a network address of the document.

38. (Original) The system of claim 23 wherein the content includes sound, the software instructions for enabling the user to perceive the content include software instructions for playing the sound, and the software instructions for preventing the user from capturing the content includes software instructions for preventing capture of information representing the sound.

39. (Original) The system of claim 23 wherein the content includes text, the software instructions for enabling the user to perceive the content include software instructions for displaying the text, and the software instructions for preventing the user from capturing the content includes software instructions for preventing capture of information representing the text.

40. (Original) The system of claim 23 wherein the content includes video, the software instructions for enabling the user to perceive the content include software instructions for playing the video, and the software instructions for preventing the user from capturing the content includes software instructions for preventing capture of information representing the video.

41. (Previously presented) The system of claim 23 wherein the software instructions are stored as an applet.

42. (Previously presented) Computer software, tangibly embodied in a computer-readable medium or in a propagated carrier signal, for protecting content, for causing a computer system to perform the following operations, the software comprising:

a first code segment to generate an indicator that differs from the content and indicates a presence of the content;

a second code segment to prevent a user from perceiving the content while the indicator is being presented;

a third code segment to enable receipt of a request from the user to access the content;

a fourth code segment to enable perception of the content based on the request received from the user; and

a fifth code segment to prevent capturing of the content by the user and to prevent a perception of the content at the indicator whenever the user attempts to capture the content.

43. (Previously presented) The software of claim 42 wherein the fifth code segment includes a code segment to prevent the user from capturing the content while perception of the content is enabled.

44. (Previously presented) The software of claim 42 wherein the content is an image and the first code segment generates the indicator to include a display area having a size that is greater than a size of the image and a location at a position of the image.

45. (Previously presented) The software of claim 42 wherein the first code segment generates the indicator to include text that presents the user with instructions for operating an input device to perceive content when a graphical interface tool is positioned over the indicator.

46. (Previously presented) The software of claim 42 wherein the fourth code segment to enable perception of the content includes a code segment to present the content to the user when the user requests access to the content by at least positioning a graphical interface tool over the indicator.

47. (Previously presented) The software of claim 46 wherein the fifth code segment to prevent capturing of the content comprises a code segment to prevent the user from using devices capable of capturing the content while the content is being presented to the user.

48. (Previously presented) The software of claim 46 wherein the fifth code segment to prevent capturing of the content comprises a code segment to prevent the user from using a single input device to both present and capture the content.

49. (Previously presented) The software of claim 42 wherein the fourth code segment to enable perception of the content includes a code segment to present the content in a browser window.

50. (Previously presented) The software of claim 49 wherein the fifth code segment to prevent capturing of the content comprises a code segment to prevent the user from accessing an application of a browser used to produce the browser window that otherwise is capable of at least one of copying and saving the content.

51. (Canceled)

52. (Previously presented) A computer-implemented method of protecting content, the method comprising:

presenting a visible indicator that differs from the content, and indicates a presence of the content;

preventing a user from perceiving the content while the visible indicator is being presented;

enabling a user to perceive the content while the visible indicator is selected;

receiving a request from the user to capture the content; and

preventing the user from capturing the content and preventing a perception of the content whenever the user attempts to capture the content.

53. (Previously presented) The method of claim 52 wherein preventing the user from capturing the content includes preventing the user from capturing the content while perception of the content is enabled.

54. (Previously presented) The method of claim 52 wherein the content is an image.

55. (Previously presented) The method of claim 52 wherein enabling the user to perceive the content includes presenting the content to the user when the user requests access to the content.

56. (Previously presented) The method of claim 52 wherein preventing the user from capturing the content comprises preventing the user from using devices capable of capturing the content while the content is able to be perceived by the user.

57. (Previously presented) The method of claim 52 wherein enabling the user to perceive the content includes presenting the content in a browser window.

58. (Previously presented) The method of claim 57 wherein preventing the user from capturing the content comprises preventing the user from accessing an application of a browser used to produce the browser window that is otherwise capable of at least one of copying and saving the content.

59. (Previously presented) The method of claim 52 wherein the content comprises an image and enabling the user to perceive the content includes displaying the image.

60. (Previously presented) The method of claim 52 wherein the content includes an image and preventing the user from capturing the content comprises preventing the user from copying and saving the image.

61. (Previously presented) The method of claim 52 wherein the content includes sound, enabling the user to perceive the content includes playing the sound, and preventing the user from capturing the content includes preventing capture of information representing the sound.

62. (Previously presented) The method of claim 52 wherein the content includes text, enabling the user to perceive the content includes displaying the text, and preventing the user from capturing the content includes preventing capture of information representing the text.

63. (Previously presented) The method of claim 52 wherein the content includes video, enabling the user to perceive the content includes playing the video, and preventing the user from capturing the content includes preventing capture of information representing the video.

64. (Previously presented) A system for protecting content, the system comprising:
a processor having communications links for receiving content from a network;
an output device for making received network content perceivable;

an input device for receiving user input; and
memory storing software instructions performed by the processor (i) for presenting a visible indicator that differs from the content and indicates a presence of the content, (ii) for preventing a user from perceiving the content while the visible indicator is being presented, (iii) for enabling a user to perceive the content while the visible indicator is selected, (iv) for receiving a request from the user to access the content, and (v) for preventing the user from capturing the content and preventing a perception of the content whenever the user attempts to capture the content.

65. (Previously presented) The system of claim 64 wherein the software instructions for preventing the user from capturing the content include software instructions for preventing the user from capturing the content while perception of the content is enabled.

66. (Previously presented) The system of claim 64 wherein the content is an image.

67. (Previously presented) The system of claim 64 wherein the software instructions for enabling the user to perceive the content include software instructions for presenting the content to the user when the user requests access to the content.

68. (Previously presented) The system of claim 64 wherein the software instructions for preventing the user from capturing the content comprise software instructions for preventing the

user from using devices capable of capturing the content while the content is able to be perceived by the user.

69. (Previously presented) The system of claim 64 wherein the software instructions for enabling the user to perceive the content include software instructions for presenting the content in a browser window.

70. (Previously presented) The system of claim 69 wherein the software instructions for preventing the user from capturing the content comprise software instructions for preventing the user from accessing an application of a browser used to produce the browser window that is otherwise capable of at least one of copying and saving the content.

71. (Previously presented) The system of claim 64 wherein the content comprises an image and the software instructions for enabling the user to perceive the content include software instructions for displaying the image.

72. (Previously presented) The system of claim 64 wherein the content includes an image and the software instructions for preventing the user from capturing the content comprise software instructions for preventing the user from copying and saving the image.

73. (Previously presented) The system of claim 64 wherein the content includes sound, the software instructions for enabling the user to perceive the content include software

instructions for playing the sound, and the software instructions for preventing the user from capturing the content include software instructions for preventing capture of information representing the sound.

74. (Previously presented) The system of claim 64 wherein the content includes text, the software instructions for enabling the user to perceive the content include software instructions for displaying the text, and the software instructions for preventing the user from capturing the content include software instructions for preventing capture of information representing the text.

75. (Previously presented) The system of claim 64 wherein the content includes video, the software instructions for enabling the user to perceive the content include software instructions for playing the video, and the software instructions for preventing the user from capturing the content include software instructions for preventing capture of information representing the video.

76. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein enabling the user to perceive the content based on the request received from the user includes replacing the indicator with the content, such that the indicator and the content are presented as alternatives.

77. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein receiving the request from the user to access the content includes holding down a mouse button over the indicator.

78. (Previously presented) The system of claim 23 wherein the software instructions for enabling the user to perceive the content based on the request received from the user include software instructions for replacing the indicator with the content, such that the indicator and the content are presented as alternatives.

79. (Previously presented) The system of claim 23 wherein the software instructions for receiving the request from the user to access the content include software instructions for holding down a mouse button over the indicator.

80. (Previously presented) The software of claim 42 wherein the fourth code segment to enable perception of the content includes a code segment to replace the indicator with the content, such that the indicator and the content are presented as alternatives.

81. (Previously presented) The software of claim 42 wherein the third code segment to enable receipt of the request from the user to access the content includes a code segment to hold down a mouse button over the indicator.

82. (Previously presented) The method of claim 52 wherein enabling the user to perceive the content while the visible indicator is selected includes replacing the visible indicator with the content, such that the visible indicator and the content are presented as alternatives.

83. (Previously presented) The method of claim 52 wherein receiving the request from the user to access the content includes holding down a mouse button over the visible indicator.

84. (Previously presented) The system of claim 64 wherein the software instructions for enabling the user to perceive the content while the visible indicator is selected include software instructions for replacing the visible indicator with the content, such that the visible indicator and the content are presented as alternatives.

85. (Previously presented) The system of claim 64 wherein the software instructions for receiving the request from the user to access the content include software instructions for holding down a mouse button over the visible indicator.

86. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein presenting the indicator includes presenting a visible indicator and preventing the perception of the content at the indicator includes preventing the perception of the content at a location of the visible indicator.

87. (Previously presented) The method of claim 23 wherein the software instructions for presenting the indicator include software instructions for presenting a visible indicator and the software instructions for preventing the perception of the content at the indicator include software instructions for preventing the perception of the content at a location of the visible indicator.

88. (Previously presented) The method of claim 42 wherein the first code segment to generate the indicator includes a code segment to generate a visible indicator and the fifth code segment to prevent the perception of the content at the indicator includes a code segment to prevent the perception of the content at a location of the visible indicator.

Applicant : Gary CRANCE
Serial No. : 09/688,142
Filed : October 16, 2000
Page : 28 of 29

Attorney's Docket No.: 06975-070001 / Security 03

(9) Evidence Appendix

None

Applicant : Gary CRANCE
Serial No. : 09/688,142
Filed : October 16, 2000
Page : 29 of 29

Attorney's Docket No.: 06975-070001 / Security 03

(10) Related Proceedings Appendix

None